291 of the chalats. By way of headgear the women frequently wear a round flat cap. Very young girls usually go unveiled; they wear a tibeteika [302] very much like that of the man. The manner of dressing their hair is very attractive. It is worn in innumerable plaits into which black ribbons are worked, from the ends of which small silver bells are suspended.

As in all other Islamic countries only the women of the towns strictly observe the custom of veiling. When working in the fields the peasant-woman wears neither long cloak nor veil. When she goes to town, however, to sell her cotton at the market, she dons cloak and veil.

286 Throughout the centuries of Turkestan's history the textile crafts have maintained a considerable standard. That is natural enough as the country produces all the more important [236] textile fibres itself. Wool was indeed used but little in the manufacture of clothing, sheep being mainly bred for slaughter, as well as for the sake of their skin, which is known as "karakul". The best kind, the skin of unborn lambs, fetches a very high price, particularly in 248 certain colours. Silk and cotton growing have always been of great importance in Turkestan, and flourish to this day (see ill. page 1445). 1/1 The two principal kinds of cotton grown are Gossypium herbaceum and Gossypium hirsutum. In 1910 over 410,000 tons of cotton were grown on an area of about 940,000 acres. Silk growing was entirely in the hands of women. Its yields were always considerable, though no statistics are available.

1/1 [See cat 116, p 36-- Analyst]

291

are thrust into long boots. Over the chalat-like coat another one of fur is worn during the cold season. The high white headdress characteristic of the Kirghiz women consists of narrow lengths of cloth which are wrapped round head and chin in such a manner as to leave only the face uncovered. Among the women of Eastern Turkestan this headdress is very bulky. Young girls wear headdresses of red instead of white cloth. Their manner of arranging their hair is also different. Married women plait their hair into two thick braids, whereas girls wear theirs in innumerable small plaits. Both women and girls intertwine the strands with strips of leather to make the braids appear longer and thicker; the ends are decorated with silver coins. Like other nomad women in Central Asia the Kirghiz women go unveiled.

[302]

Unlike the dress of the Kirghiz, that of the Turkomans is of cloth, a fact which in itself shows that they belong to a different civilization. The principal items of men's dress are a cotton shirt, which in the East is worn like a blouse or smock, cotton trousers, and a chalat. Chalats are usually dark red, a colour for which the Turkoman shows great preference. Whereas in the southern Turkoman regions chalats reach almost to the ground, in the North they are scarcely longer than the beshmet of the Tartars. As leg-coverings the Turkomans wear woollen stockings and sometimes light boots, but always heelless shoes of slipper-like character, which can easily be removed before entering a tent. The use of this kind of footwear shows that the Turko-

141 medium size; the lips are thick, the teeth
142 medium; the chin is round, the ears are small and flattened; the hair is black and smooth; the beard is sparse and tough. The skin is smooth, the neck powerful and the extremities medium.

197 They[1] speak Chinese and wear Chinese
●302 costume but nevertheless they shave their heads.
463 Their occupations are agriculture, gardening and various crafts. They make no celebration
844 when a child is born. The mother remains in
846 bed for fifteen days. The child receives its
553 name the day after it is born, in the presence of the mullah. The circumcision of boys is
852 performed on the eighth, ninth or tenth day.
583 A girl who is marrying receives a dowry. /332/
764 After death the body is wrapped in a white cloth
765 and buried directly in the ground. After the burial the mullahs and relatives gather for a
587 funeral feast. A widow may remarry after the
593 lapse of ninety days. In family life parental authority is very strong and the father is the
291 absolute head of the family. The women do not cover their faces. These people are outstanding
181 for their high morals, industry and hospitality.

101 12) The Kalmyks, and the Torgouts who
221 are related to them,[2] are nomads. The former nomadize in the Vernoye and Issyk-Kul uyezds of the Semirechie oblast, and the latter in the Kuldja region, around Kunges. Since 1878 the Torgouts have begun to migrate to Yulduz.

162 The 13) Sibo (13;318 persons), the
101 14) Solons (4,182 persons), and the 15) Kara-Kiti(3,032 persons) belong to the Mongol (read Manchu-Tungusic, ed.) peoples. The majority of them (21,932 persons, male and female) live

[1] [The Dungans, see cat 116, p. 11--Analyst]